

CLAIMS

1. A method of establishing the position of a target on an object,
the method comprising the steps of:

5 identifying one or more features associated with the object, the
features being located at known positions on the object;

applying a first target to the object;

establishing a datum co-ordinate system for the object based on the
determined location of the features associated with the object; and,

10 measuring using optical measuring means the position of the first
target on the object relative to the one or more features so as to determine
the location of the target on the object.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the
15 one or more features is a second target applied to the object.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the
one or more features is located in a close-tolerance location point on the
object.

20 4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the close-tolerance
location point on the object is a hole.

5. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein at least one of the one or more features is located in a disposable or excess material portion of the object.

5 6. A method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of removing at least a part of the disposable or excess material portion of the object, the removed part comprising the at least one of the one or more features.

10 7. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the step of applying a first target comprises applying the first target to approximate location on the object.

15 8. A method according to claim 7, wherein the first target is self-adhesive.

9. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the first target or one or more of the second targets are coded.

20 10. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the first target or one or more of the second targets are retro-reflective.